



Commission on Forensic Science
Standards and Certifications Advisory Committee (SAC)

MINUTES

June 22, 2015

10-12:00 p.m.

Delaware State University
Luna Mishoe Science Center, Room 122C
1200 N. Dupont Hwy
Dover DE 19904

Voting Committee Members

Clytrice Watson	Associate Dean/Department Chair Biology, Delaware State University
Alice Briones	Lt. Col. USAF, MC
Johna Esposito	Toxicology, DFS
Patricia Monaghan	Quality Assurance Manager, DFS
Robyn Quinn	Laboratory manager II, Controlled Substances and Arson Unit, DFS

Guest

Mike Wolf, Director of DFS

1. Welcome, Call to Order-Dr. Clytrice Watson

2. Approval of May 18, 2015 Minutes

Minutes were discussed for corrections and modification. Approved

3. Review of ASCLD/LAB and ANAB discussion

- Dr. Watson began the discussion by thanking the committee for their work in collecting information on the accreditation agencies and to Patricia for working to complete the information for the ANAB and ASCLD/LAB comparison chart.
- Dr. Watson made her thoughts on the recommendation, which would be Dual accreditation (ANAB and ASCLD/LAB) and eventually decrease to one agency for the following reasons:
 - To ensure that all areas are accurately covered.
 - To repair the public opinion of DFS

- It was thought that partial accreditation from either agency could be obtained, but that was clarified and explained that accreditation is an all or nothing process.
- The desired outcome is for DFS to be ISO 17025 certified and either accrediting body can achieve this goal, so after a period of dual accreditation, select the best agency based effectiveness.

4. Open Discussion

- Mrs. Monaghan suggested that DFS seek to continue their accreditation through ANAB and request additional assessor for longer periods of time (5 days opposed to 3 days).
- Dual accreditation is a waste of tax-payers money
- Previous problems were not a direct result of ANAB and may not have been identified by ANAB or ASCLD.
- Mrs. Monaghan, Mrs. Esposito and Ms. Quinn support retaining ANAB as the accrediting agency for DFS and are not in support of dual accreditation for the following reasons:
 - Disruption in the work processes due to two separate processes.
 - The likelihood of obtaining conflicting results/findings from the two different agencies
 - Would rather have a detailed and extensive assessment by one agency, i.e. five days opposed to 3 days and request additional assessors. Also have onsite annual/biannual evaluations opposed to desk audits.
- Dr. Briones provide additional insight and clarity on the process of accreditation. AFMEO is accredited by FBI-QAS for DNA and ASCLD for all other units.
- Mr. Wolf, provided the following information:
 - DFS is currently collecting data on the volume crime in Delaware for 2013-2015. This data is forthcoming and will assist in assessing how DFS will meet the needs of the state.
 - His vision/goal is for DFS to be a one-stop-shop for forensic services and not rely on outsourcing for services.
 - Expressed concerns over dual accreditation, regarding the cost and additional work requirements for DFS personnel. He stated that North Carolina is the only state agency that has dual accreditation.
 - Expressed his concerns with ANAB based on the previous problems experience with the drug storage and the shortage of staff/evaluators.

Note: Discussion amongst committee members pointed out that ANAB may not have necessarily identified the aforementioned problems and this was more of a leadership and internal staffing issue.

The re-accreditation process would start in March of 2016.

Dr. Watson will write up the recommendation based on the discussion and submit to Secretary Schiliro for the July 27th commission meeting. She indicated that she would likely not be in attendance for that meeting due to another obligation.

5. Adjourned: 11:05 pm